

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/975,532

Examiner

Salvatore Cangialosi

Applicant(s)

OGG ET AL.

Art Unit

3621

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 04/18/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-44.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

PS

**The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance**

Regarding independent claim 1, the prior art fails to show a method for printing postage, including receiving a label stock having a set of labels each having a pre-printed serial number, each pre-printed serial number related to a single master serial number that identifies the label stock; receiving a postage request; generating an indicium in accordance with the master serial number, pre-printed serial number, and the postage request, the indicium including an indicator verifying a match with the pre-printed serial number; and printing the postage using the indicium and the label stock in the manner and complexity recited by the claims. Regarding independent claim 13, the prior art fails to show a data processing system adapted to print postage, including a processor; and a memory operably coupled to the processor and having program instructions stored therein, the processor being operable execute the program instructions, the program instructions including: receiving a label stock pre-printed serial number, the pre-printed serial number including a master serial number; receiving a postage request; generating an indicium in accordance with the master serial number, pre-printed serial number, and the postage request, the indicium providing a visual verification of a match with the pre-printed serial number; and printing the postage using the indicium and the label stock in the manner and complexity recited by the claims.

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Regarding independent claim 25, the prior art fails to show a method for printing postage, including receiving a label stock with at least one pre-printed serial number on a label, the pre-printed serial number related to a master serial number of the label stock, the label stock including printing in color-changing ink, labels cut with a special die, micro-printing, and a watermark; receiving a postage request; generating an indicium in accordance with the master serial number, pre-printed serial number, and the postage request; the indicium providing means for verifying the validity of the postage; and printing the postage using the indicium and label stock in the manner and complexity recited by the claims. Regarding independent claim 32 the prior art fails to show a method for printing postage, including receiving a label stock comprising a first label with a pre-printed serial number; receiving a postage request; generating an indicium accordance with the pre-printed serial number and the postage request; printing the postage using the indicium and the first label, the indicium providing means for verifying the validity of the postage; tracking the use of the pre-printed serial number; and rejecting a subsequent postage request for a second label with the pre-printed serial number in the manner and complexity recited by the claims. Regarding independent claim 38 the prior art fails to show a method for printing postage, including receiving a label stock comprising a first label with a pre-printed serial number; receiving a postage request; generating an indicium accordance with the pre-printed

serial number and the postage request; printing the postage using the indicium and the first label, the indicium providing means for verifying the validity of the postage; tracking the use of the pre-printed serial number; and rejecting a subsequent postage request for a second label with the pre-printed serial number in the manner and complexity recited by the claims. Regarding independent claim 40 the prior art fails to show a method for printing postage, including receiving a pre-printed serial number for label stock cut with a special die; receiving a postage request; generating an indicium in accordance with the pre-printed serial number and the postage request; printing the postage using the indicium and the label stock; tracking the use of the pre-printed serial number; and blocking subsequent use of the pre-printed serial number in the manner and complexity recited by the claims. Regarding independent claim 41, the prior art fails to show a method for generating a display in a user interface for printing postage, including receiving a label stock type for a label stock, the label stock including a plurality of sequenced labels; receiving a label starting sequence number for a label from the plurality of sequenced labels; and generating a label stock display using the label stock type and label starting sequence number, the label stock display providing means for verifying the validity of the postage in relation to the label starting sequence number in the manner and complexity recited by the claims. While the elements are separately known in the prior art, the combination is novel.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and to avoid processing delays should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Salvatore Cangialosi at telephone number (703) 305-1837. The examiner can normally be reached 6:30 Am to 5:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell, can be reached at (703) 305-9768.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**or faxed to (703)872-9306**

Hand delivered responses should be brought to


United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 3600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-5771.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
SALVATORE CANGIALOSI  
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ART UNIT 222